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Donna Macedo

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DJ Macedo

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6/10/02

RESPONSE	Attorney Docket	10981712-2
Address to:	Confirmation No.	4359
Assistant Commissioner for Patents	First Named Inventor	Michael P. Caren
Washington, D.C. 20231	Application Number	09/819,923
	Filing Date	03/26/2001
	Group Art Unit	1637
	Examiner Name	Jeffrey Siew
	Title	Method of Performing Array-Based Hybridization Assays Using Thermal Inkjet Deposition of Sample Fluids

Dear Sir:

This amendment is responsive to the Office Action dated April 8, 2002, for which a three-month period for response was given making this response due on or before June 8, 2002. In view of the amendments to the claims and the remarks put forth below, reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested. A clean copy of the amended claims appears below with the amended version attached on a document marked "VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE."

AMENDMENTS

In the Claims

22. (Amended) A method for depositing a quantity of fluid containing a nucleic acid, on a substrate surface having a plurality of binding agents stably associated therewith, said method comprising:

positioning a thermal inkjet head filled with said nucleic acid containing fluid in opposing relation to said substrate surface; and

actuating said thermal inkjet head in a manner sufficient to expel said quantity of fluid onto said substrate surface to deposit said quantity of fluid on said substrate surface, wherein nucleic acids present in said deposited fluid are capable of hybridizing to their complement.

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